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 $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{1}$

Political Practices

444-2942

[illegible]

The Office of the Commissioner of Political Practices monitors and enforces:

- [illegible]

Statutory Authority

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graph LR; A[ ] --- B((Title 2, chapter 2)); A --- C((Title 5, chapter 7)); A --- D((Title 13, Chapters 35 & 37)); B --- E[• Code of Ethics]; C --- F[• Lobbying]; D --- G[• Campaign finance]; D --- H[• Campaign practice];
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- Title 2, chapter 2 • *Code of Ethics*
- Title 5, chapter 7 • *Lobbying*
- Title 13, Chapters 35 & 37 • *Campaign finance*
• *Campaign practice*

[illegible]

- 100% of COPP budget comes from General Fund
- COPP Generates a small amount of revenue from printing & distribution, civil fines for violations and lobbyist filing fees

Revenue Source	Directed to
Lobbyist registration - \$150	\$50 General Fund \$100 TVMT FY10 collected \$38,436 total
Fines - Varies	General Fund

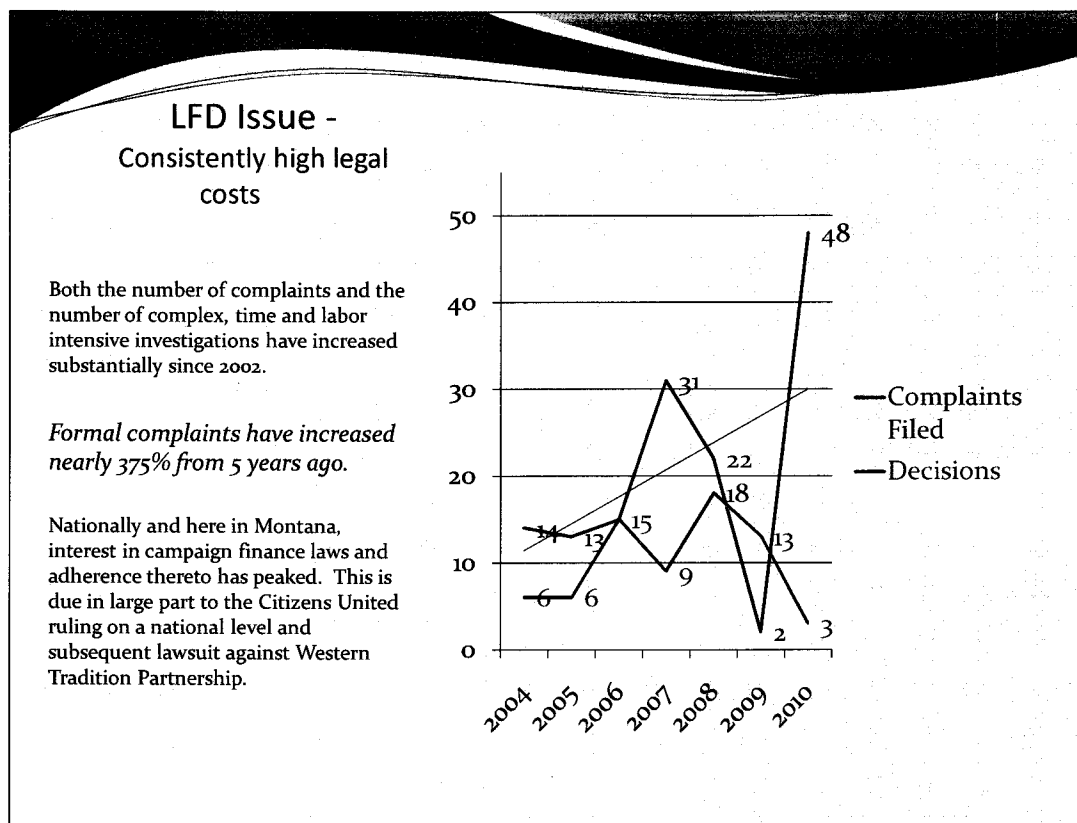
A cartoon illustration by Goff. Two men in a factory setting. The man on the left is walking towards the right. The man on the right is standing and holding a large sign that says "MORE MORE MORE". In the background, there are pipes and a large piece of machinery. The signature "GOFF" is at the bottom right.

"THE NEW PRODUCTIVITY GOALS ARE HERE."

[illegible]

Obstacles

- Existing backlog of complaints on docket
- Increasing number & complexity of complaints
- Recent Supreme Court ruling leaving the general public confused about ramifications of the Citizens United decision.
- Subsequent increased legal costs with contracted counsel.



**all numbers in thousands*

****note that FY11 is only half complete, and already virtually the entire legal budget has been spent**

[illegible]

Current situation

- Docket of 57 pending complaints
 - 271% last year's load
 - Dating back to January, 2008
 - Dangerously close to statute of limitations
 - Significant complexity requiring retained counsel to legal analysis and application of precedent rulings
 - 4 major lawsuits
 - Montana Republican Party v. Schweitzer
 - Western Tradition Partnership v. COPP and Bullock (WTP I)
 - Western Tradition Partnership v. COPP and Bullock (WTP II)
 - Montana Shrugged v. COPP, Bullock, and Paxinos
- 12.8% of budget left for 50% of our Fiscal Year

